(c) whether any Voluntary Health Group has been writing to Government on this subject; if so, the details thereof and the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Out of a total of 123 pesticides registered by the Government on a regular basis, maximum residual tolerance limits for 31 pesticides in food articles have been laid down. In addition, tolerance limits for 19 other pesticides have also been fixed and these are in the process of being published. The pesticides for which tolerance limits have been fixed are those which are commonly manufactured and used in India.

(c) The Voluntary Health Association of India (VHAI) has prepared a status report on Pesticide Residues *vis-a-vis* Consumer Protection and has communicated the recommendations contained in the Status Report to the Ministry. The Government has constituted a Standing Committee on Pesticides under the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation to review the implementation of decisions taken by various ministries regarding pesticide use in the country.

Moratorium on food irradiation

1727. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Australia has put three years moratorium on food irradiation recently; if so, on what grounds; and

(b) whether any Health Groups in the country have been pleading with Government to place a similar moratorium on the basis of recommendation of the Food Irradiation Conference held in Canbarra in December, 1988 by International Organisation of Consumer Union, Penang, until many serious doubts, especially on health grounds are fully cleared: if so, what is the present Government's position thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) No, Sir. Government are not aware that Australia has put three years' moratorium on food irradiation.

(b) Yes, Sir. Some groups like Voluntary Health Association of India, Indian Vegetarian Congress and Beauty without Cruelty have protested against the use of irradiated food in this country. But these protests are not substantiated with scientific data. The Canberra Conference was held by a private organisation of consumers which is not recognised by WHO or IAEA, "Canberra Declaration of IOCU did not provide the public with a balanced view on Food Irradiation" is the view held by IAEA.

Government have reviewed the voluminous data on the safety and wholesomeness of irradiated foods before according the clearance for irradiation of some food for public consumption. A demonstration is being established to evaluate the onions is being established to evaluate the economics of this process. Research is being carried on to establish versatile detection methods for irradiated products.

मैसर्स ए०बी० बोफोर्स के साथ हुई संविदा

1728. **श्री बीजू इशाक बेग :** क्या **प्रधान मंत्री** यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने बोफोर्स तोप सौदे से संबंधित सभी शर्तें स्वीकार कर ली थीं ; यदि नहीं तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ;

(ख) संविदा की शर्तों के अनुसार मैसर्स ए०बी० बोफोर्स को अब तक

[illegible] का भुगतान किया जा [illegible] है और देश से [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] (क) [illegible] तोपों [illegible] गए हैं वे प्राप्त कर ली गई हैं और यह सुनिश्चित करने के लिए कि वे विनिर्दिष्टियों के अनुरूप हैं, क्योंकि उसके बाद ही उन्हें सेना द्वारा स्वीकार किया जाता है, गुणता आश्वासन निदेशालय ने इसका गहन निरीक्षण किया है। ठेके की शर्तों के अनुसार इन तोपों के लिए भुगतान भी किया जा रहा है।

बोफोर्स तोप संविदा संबंधी जांच कार्य में प्रगति

1729. श्री [illegible] [illegible] क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

[illegible]

[illegible]

(ग) [illegible] इस संविदा [illegible] संबंधित सभी दस्तावेज और पत्रव्यवहार सभी सांसदों को दिखाया जाए, सरकार ने इंकार कर दिया है; यदि नहीं, तो [illegible] कारण है और इस संबंध में सरकार द्वारा [illegible] पूरी कर लिए जाने की [illegible] है?

[illegible] (क) बोफोर्स [illegible] 1989 [illegible] निम्नलिखित ठोस कदम उठाए हैं:—

(1) 22 जनवरी, 1990 को एक आपराधिक मामला दर्ज किया गया।

(2) भारतीय अधिकारियों के अनुरोध पर स्विस अधिकारियों ने 26 जनवरी, 1990 को स्विस बैंक के छः खातों पर रोक लगा दी।

(3) 9 फरवरी, 1990 को स्विस अधिकारियों को एक "याचिका पत्र" (लेटर रोगेटरी) दिया गया ताकि रोके गए स्विस बैंक के छः खातों के प्रतिष्ठित हस्ताक्षरकर्ताओं एवं लाभ पाने वालों का पता लगाने [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] नहीं [illegible] कोई कानूनी [illegible] जाती है।

[illegible]

1730. [illegible] प्रधान मंत्री [illegible]

(क) क्या बोफोर्स तोप सौदे के संबंध में स्विस बैंक के खातों संबंधी